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## New Solar Power Feeds California Electric Grid

HOPLAND, Calif., Oct. 19 /PRNewswire/

GreenMountain.com, announced today the completion of the first solar power plant built in California as a result of customer choice. Strong customer demand for new sources of clean, renewable energy resulted in the construction of this solar power plant. Solar 2000 Mendocino is the largest commercial power plant built in California in the last five years. Because of deregulation of the California energy market, three renewable energy-industry leaders -- GPU Solar, Real Goods and GreenMountain.com -- were able to work together to fulfill this customer demand for new sources of clean power.

"Customers care where their power comes from," said Julie Blunden, President of the Western Region for GreenMountain.com. "GreenMountain.com is dedicated to changing the way electricity is made. New sources of clean renewable energy such as Solar 2000 Mendocino are what our customers have asked for."

GPU Solar, Real Goods and GreenMountain.com celebrated this industry achievement with a dedication ceremony in Hopland, California. Under the shade of the 132kW solar array, over 75 local and state government officials, local business representatives, environmentalists and renewable energy industry leaders gathered to celebrate this historic event.

GPU Solar, a joint venture between AstroPower, Inc. (Nasdaq: APWR) and GPU International (NYSE: GPU) will own and operate the plant. Construction began just under 4 weeks ago. The fast construction time is due to AstroPower's advance modular photovoltaic technology and the simplicity of the design by

PowerLight Corporation of Berkeley, California  
([www.powerlight.com](http://www.powerlight.com)). GreenMountain.com will purchase the clean electricity on behalf of its 100% Renewable2.0(SM) customers.

As seen from Highway 101, Solar 2000 Mendocino is located in Hopland, California and it covers about one-third of an acre. Situated on the edge of a vineyard, the array consists of four individual units, with each unit measuring 80 feet by 40 feet. Electricity from this plant flows into the California electric grid, which serves GreenMountain.com's customers.

#### About GreenMountain.com

GreenMountain.com offers products and services online for environmentally concerned consumers. Green Mountain Energy(SM) is GreenMountain.com's leading retail brand of electricity featuring renewable generation sources to residential customers. Green Mountain Energy(SM) is currently available in California and Pennsylvania. For more information on GreenMountain.com, visit our Web site at [www.greenmountain.com](http://www.greenmountain.com) or call 888-246-6730.

#### About Real Goods

Real Goods Trading Corporation, a leading California based supplier, sells a broad range of environmental and renewable energy products through its catalogs, retail stores and the Internet. The Company is the largest supplier of products for renewable energy and sustainable living in the world. Real Goods common stock is publicly traded on the Chicago Stock Exchange under the symbol "RGT," as well as on the Nasdaq. For more information on Real Goods, visit their Web site at [www.realgoods.com](http://www.realgoods.com) or call 800-762-7325 for a complimentary catalog.

#### About GPU Solar

GPU Solar, Inc. develops, finances, and provides solar power services to electricity customers seeking renewable, clean sources of electricity. GPU Solar is a joint venture corporation owned by AstroPower, Inc. of Newark, DE and GPU International, Inc. of Parsippany, NJ. AstroPower is currently the largest US-owned manufacturer of photovoltaic (PV) solar power cells and panels. GPU International is a worldwide developer of independent power plants.

SOURCE GreenMountain.com

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/NOTE TO EDITORS: GreenMountain.com and its Green Mountain Energy brand are not affiliated with Green Mountain Power Corporation (GMP)/

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